



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EMPLOYEES HONORED

The Department of Justice held its 22nd annual Executive Office for United States Attorneys Director's Awards Ceremony today, during which 123 award recipients were recognized for their excellence in law enforcement. Recipients included Assistant United States Attorneys, litigation and information technology support personnel, and others who have made outstanding contributions in federal, state and local law enforcement .

Eight individuals of the Administrative Office for the Western District of New York were recognized for their service by receiving The Director's Award for **Superior**

Performance by an Administrative Team: Ms. Phyllis Dudeck, Ms. Terri

Kluczynski, Ms. Mary Gloss, Ms. Valerie Rose, Ms. Holly Sitarski; Ms. Barbara

Sweitzer, Ms. Mary Pat Tyler, and Ms. Kathy Vogel have proven to be highly valued employees of the District for their outstanding efforts in maintaining the integrity of the administrative operation while supporting the mission of the Department and the Regime Crimes Liaison Office. Through their collective efforts they provided required administrative services to all legal personnel in the District without any degradation of

services. Through one of their members, Ms. Gloss, they supported the efforts of the Regime Crimes Liaison Office to assist the Iraqi Special Tribunal with evidence gathering and prosecution of the former regime.

Assistant U.S Attorney **Frank H. Sherman** of the Rochester, New York, branch office, is being honored with an award for **Superior Performance as an Assistant U.S. Attorney** for the investigation and prosecution of the trial of United States v. Murphy, et al., which successfully convicted five violent offenders who had terrorized the Rochester community from 1993 to 2001.

“Today we honor some of our best and brightest, some of our most talented and most dedicated,” said Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales. “The men and women we honor today work tirelessly to protect the American people and to safeguard the promise of justice made to every generation. Their efforts are vital to the Justice Department and to our Nation, and I thank them for their service and the sacrifices they make every day.”

While terrorism remains the top priority of the Department of Justice, the Department continued its mission to enforce all of our nation’s laws, including prosecuting civil rights violations, gang violence and drug crimes, as well as representing our client agencies, conducting civil enforcement, and assisting victims of crime. Crime has dropped to a 30-year low as the Department has employed tough tools and tough penalties against criminals who have victimized the innocent. Between

2000 and 2004, federal gun prosecutions increased 76 percent and the violent crime rate decreased 23 percent.

Acting United States Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter stated “We are extremely proud that members of our staff have been recognized for their outstanding service in facilitating and carrying out our mission to serve the citizens of Western New York. They are to be applauded for this outstanding accomplishment.”

The Executive Office for United States Attorneys provides oversight, general executive assistance, and direction to the 94 United States Attorneys’ offices around the country.

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